

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended).

A multi-bed catalyzer for an exhaust system of a combustion engine, in particular, of a motor vehicle,

- with a housing (2), in which at least two catalytic monoliths (3, 4) are arranged axially adjacent and are arranged to be axially flowed-through with current in succession,
- wherein the two monoliths (3, 4) are encased on a ~~circumferential~~ circumferential side by a common heat-resistant bearing mat (5) and are supported by means of the bearing mat (5) in the housing (2),
- wherein axially between the two monoliths (3, 4) at least two heat-resistance distancing elements (9) are arranged to be circumferentially distributed, wherein the monoliths are axially supported on one another by means of the distancing elements (9); and

wherein the distancing elements (9) are supported radially outward on the housing (2); and

wherein the bearing mat (5) for each distancing element (9) has a recess (13), wherein a respective distancing element (9) is

arranged in each recess (13) and wherein each distancing element (9) extends axially between the monoliths (3, 4) radially inward from a respective recess (13).

Claim 2. (Currently Amended).

The multi-bed catalyzer according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein the distancing elements (9) are formed respectively by means of a wire web made from a heat-resistant wire.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended).

The multi-bed catalyzer according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein the distancing elements (9) are arranged radially outward and extend radially inward with a distancing section (10) axially between the monoliths (3, 4).

Claim 4. (Currently Amended).

The multi-bed catalyzer according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein the distancing elements (9) respectively have a retaining section connecting to the distancing section (10), wherein the retaining section (11) engages at least one of the monoliths (3, 4) radially outward in an axial direction.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended).

The multi-bed catalyzer according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein the monoliths (3, 4) support the distancing elements (9) radially in the housing (2) by means of the retaining sections (11).

Claim 6. (Currently Amended).

The multi-bed catalyzer according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein the distancing elements (9) have an L-shaped or T-shaped axial cross section.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended).

The multi-bed catalyzer according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein the distancing elements (9) are formed as circular arc sections with reference to a longitudinal center axis (12) of the monoliths (3, 4).

Claim 8. (Cancelled).

Claim 9. (Cancelled).

Claim 10. (Currently Amended).

The multi-bed catalyzer according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein the distancing elements (9) are integrated in the bearing mat (5).

Claim 11. (Currently Amended).

The multi-bed catalyzer according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein the bearing mat (5) and the distancing elements (9), respectively, are formed as webs from a heat-resistance material and are connected with one another.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended).

The multi-bed catalyzer according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein in an axial section, the housing (2) has a pivoting connection (15) in which the two monoliths (3, 4) are axially spaced from one another by means of the distancing elements (9), wherein the pivoting connection (15) is suitable for connecting an exhaust probe.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended).

The multi-bed catalyzer according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein on the housing (2) in a region of the pivoting connection (15), a flat plateau (16) is formed, wherein the pivoting connection (15) is mounted on the flat plateau (16).

Claim 14. (Currently Amended).

The multi-bed catalyzer according to claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein the bearing mat (5) has a recess (17) in a region of the pivoting connection (15), wherein an exhaust probe (14) can project radially into the recess (17).

Claim 15. (Currently Amended).

Multi-bed catalyzer at least according to Claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein when there is at least one ~~spacer~~ distancing element (9), the ~~spacer~~ distancing section (10) on at least one side has a projection (19) which protrudes in the circumferential direction (18) above the ~~mounting~~ retaining section (11).

Claim 16. (Currently Amended).

Multi-bed catalyzer according to Claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein the projection (19) tapers in the circumferential direction.

Claim 17. (Currently Amended).

Multi-bed catalyzer according to Claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein at least one of the projections (19) is dimensioned so that in the installed state, it extends at the edge over the recess (13) in the circumferential direction (18).

Claim 18. (Currently Amended).

Multi-bed catalyzer according to claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein in the installed state, at least one of the projections (19) is in radial contact with the bearing mat (5).